

York Local Plan Examination

Phase 2: Matter 1 Statement

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Matter 1 – Strategic Vision, Outcomes and Development Principles

(Question 1.3) Is the overall strategic approach, in terms of the vision, outcomes and principles relating to development, its management and delivering the Plan's development requirements positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with the Framework?

- 1. The Green Belt Assessment that was carried out prior to the initial allocation of sites only considered the impact of existing development on parts of the Green Belt. No wide assessment of all parts of the Green Belt was carried out, as is normal when the Green Belt is assessed in other areas. This is particularly clear in relation to ST14 that was initially allocated as a Sustainable Urban Extension to the built-up area of York, and only at a later stage moved away from the ring road because that area of land was important to keep open and similarly moved away from Skelton. If the Green Belt had been properly assessed in the first place, the site would never have been allocated as it would not have accorded with the Principles set out prior to the allocation stage, or the sustainability principles set out at this stage.
- 2. Because the Green Belt assessment only considered existing development and how the Green Belt functioned around this, and not whether development on any other part of the Green Belt might adversely affect the Green Belt prior to consider any allocations, the LPA have fundamentally failed to plan in a positive, justified or effective manner, and therefore the plan is not consistent with the Framework.